

Re: Structuring

September 1998

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON COMPETITION AND THE ELECTRIC INDUSTRY

<http://eetd.lbl.gov/NationalCouncil/>

July/August LEAP Letter Highlights

California Proposition 9 Guest Perspectives. Leading voices in the debate on the November ballot issue to partially repeal the 1996 California electric industry restructuring law make their cases as the election campaign begins that will be followed closely across America. Meanwhile, the California Legislature enacted 11 new laws on electricity, including judicial review of regulatory cases.

1998's Long, Hot Summer of Electric Restructuring resulted in a new reliability bill in Congress (HR 4432), investigations by FERC and state regulators, and filings of complaints, rate reductions, and even emergency electric shut-off bans as price spikes, alleged market manipulations and resulting losses to utilities and energy marketers occurred.

While New Hampshire enacted a new law capping system benefit charges (SBC), New York regulators approved \$234 million of SBC for energy efficiency, renewables, research & development and low-income programs. In New Mexico, an SBC was agreed upon for the world's largest solar generating plant but opposition by the solar industry may kill the project. Arizona regulators voted 2-1 for retail access to begin phasing in retail access on January 1, 1999, with a solar portfolio standard requiring Arizona suppliers to acquire 0.2% of their resource mix from solar power each year from 1999 to 2003, when a 1% standard will remain in effect until 2012.

New restructuring bills emerged in Michigan. New Jersey lawmakers are expected to introduce bills in September. So far, few residential offerings are being made to the nearly 2 million Pennsylvanians signing up for retail access. As regulators implemented restructuring in 14 states, legislative study committees on electric restructuring were still active throughout the summer in almost half the states. Readers of this issue of the LEAP Letter can download a comparison of 13 state electric restructuring laws and federal electric restructuring bills prepared by a Senior Research Analyst at the Nevada Legislative Counsel Bureau who worked on the 1997 Nevada electric restructuring law.

LEAP Letter

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Upcoming Meetings/Conferences

NASEO Annual Meeting.

September 13-16, 1998. Stowe, VT.

DOE-NARUC National Electricity Forum.

September 16-18, 1998. Houston, TX.

NARUC Annual Convention.

November 9-11, 1998. Orlando, FL.

National Council Steering Committee Meeting.

November 12, 1998. Orlando, FL (Tentative).

National Council

The National Council on Competition and the Electric Industry web site is:

<http://eetd.lbl.gov/NationalCouncil/>

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Suggestions for news items and announcements are welcome.

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National Council Publications on Electric Industry Restructuring

Research Reports

Federal, State, and Local Tax Implications of Electric Industry Restructuring (Deloitte & Touche, 1996)

Assessing Impacts of Restructuring on Small Business, Residential, and Low-Income Customers (Roger D. Colton, 1996)

The Unintended Impacts of Restructuring (Dave Schoengold, 1996)

The Organization of Competitive Wholesale Power Markets and Spot Price Pools (Paul A. Centolella, 1996)

Stranded Benefits in Electric Utilities Restructuring (Nancy Brockway & Michael Sherman, 1996)

The British Electric Utility Restructuring Experience: History and Lessons for the U.S. (Michael C. Brower, Stephen D. Thomas, & Catherine Mitchell, 1996)

Regulation and Competition Without Privatization: Norway's Experience (Jan Moen & Jan Hamrin, Printed in *The Electricity Journal*, March 1996)

Public-Interest Research and Development in the Electric and Gas Utility Industries (Carl Blumstein, Richard Scheer, and Stephen Wiel, 1998)

Briefing Papers

Customer Choice (Cheryl Harrington, 1996)

Electric Utility Transition Costs (Eric Hirst & Lester Baxter, 1996)

Market Power in the Electric Utility Industry: An Overview (William Shepherd, 1997)

Restructuring Issues Associated with Nuclear Power Plants (William B. Marcus, 1997)

Regional Issues in Restructuring the Electric Industry (Sue Tierney, 1998)

Disclosure Series

Full Environmental Disclosure for Electricity: Tracking and Reporting Key Information (David Moskovitz et al., July 1997)

Information Disclosure for Electricity Sales: Consumer Preferences from Focus Groups (Alan S. Levy et al., July 1997)

Disclosure of Fuel Mix and Emissions by Retail Electric Service Providers: Issues of Confidentiality vs. Public Right to Know (Scott Hempling, July 1997)

Information Disclosure for Electricity Sales: Consumer Preferences from Focus Groups, Report 2 — West Coast (Mario Teisel et. al., 1997)

Information Disclosure for Electricity Sales: Consumer Preferences from Focus Groups, Report 3 — Rocky Mountain West (Lynn Halverson & Edward Holt, 1997)

Uniform Consumer Disclosure Standards for New England: Report and Recommendations to the New England Utility Regulatory Commissions (Tom Austin et al., January 1998)

Information Consumers Want in Electricity Choice, Summary of Focus Group Research (Ed Holt, January 1998)

Summary Report, Baseline Survey — Consumer Knowledge, Practices, and Attitudes, Electric Utility Deregulation and Consumer Choice (Kenneth Winneg et al., January 1998)

Model Electricity Consumer Protection Disclosures (Jerrold Oppenheim and Barbara Alexander, April 1998)

Label Testing: Results of Mall Intercept Study (Kenneth Winneg et al., April 1998)

Other

Council Design Criteria List (Jan Hamrin, 1995)

Six Generic Restructuring Models (Jan Hamrin, 1995)

A Glossary of Restructuring Terms

National Council Publications are available from our web site (<http://eetd.lbl.gov/NationalCouncil/>) or in print from:

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